

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 125
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

125. SHRI HARIS BEERAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any memorandum from Christian leaders and different Church groups regarding the rising violence against Christian community, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the actions taken by Government against this trend of increasing intolerance and hostility towards the Christian community; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to protect minority communities from such attacks in future?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Hence prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of offences, including matters related to violence against minority communities, are primarily the concerns of the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations. The State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations are competent to deal with offences under the extant provisions of laws and action is taken as per the existing laws by the law enforcing agencies, whenever instances of violence come to the notice. As such, specific data regarding violence against a particular community is not maintained centrally.

Further, the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) has been set up by Government, which looks into specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of the minorities and take up such matters with the appropriate authorities. The NCM has received some petitions regarding instances of attacks and violence against the Christian community. Such petitions were forwarded to the concerned authorities of the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations for taking necessary action. The list of such petitions and action taken thereon is at **Annexure-I**.

Moreover, the Government of India monitors the internal security and law and order situation in the country and assists the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations in case of major law and order problems by deploying CAPFs at the request of the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations. Additionally, the Government of India issues appropriate advisories from time to time to maintain peace, public tranquillity and harmony.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 125 FOR ANSWER ON 03.02.2025 REGARDING ‘VIOLENCE AGAINST CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY’ ASKED BY SHRI HARIS BEERAN

Details of petitions received by the National Commission for Minorities relating to attacks and violence against Christian community in the Country during the years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24, & 2024-25 (up to 27.01.2025)

Sr. No.	Case details	Action taken
2021-22		
1.	C/KT/104/00017/2021: A petition dated 04.02.2021 received from Shri Harry D Souza regarding attack on the Christians Preachers and vandalise the statues and properties of Church.	Report was sought from DGP, Karnataka. A report was received in which it was stated that the cases of attacks on religious preachers by those claiming to be Hindu activists, an incident of destruction of Church statues and Church properties, and incidents of attacking places of worship and forcibly removing idols using cranes as mentioned by the petitioner in his petition, was not happened since 2010 within the jurisdiction of Mangaluru City Police Commisisonrate and no cases were registered in this regard.
2.	C/KT/104/00043/2021: A Petition dated was received from Mr. Richmanricky Y Navgraha, Karnataka regarding attack on Churches and Christian Community.	Reports were sought from the Chief Secretary and DGP, Karnataka. A reply was received from Police Department, Govt. of Karnataka stating that since 2021, sixteen cases were registered in the various unit of Karnataka state.
3.	C/DL/11/00071/2022: A petition dated 12.07.2021 was received from Advocate Dean Kuriakorse, regarding demolition of little Flower Catholic Church Lado Sarai Andheria More, New Delhi on 12.07.21.	A report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Govt. of NCT Delhi. A reply was received from the BDO, South Delhi stating that all the formalities as per due process of law were observed for carrying out the demolition, no idol was touched or damaged during demolition.
4.	C/KT/115/00046/2021: The Commission took Suo-Moto cognizance on the newspaper report published in the “Hindustan Times” dated 24.12.2021 regarding vandalization of the Church in Chikkaballapur, Karnataka.	A report was sought from DGP, Karnataka. A report was received from DGP Office in which it was stated that statue of St. Anthony kept inside the glass frame measuring about 1.5 feet height, kept in between the bank of Rangadhama lake and public road leading to Susaipalya village, Chikkaballapura Taluk and District, which got damaged by stone pelting by unknown miscreants, during early morning hours on 23/12/2021. The statue of St. Anthony was kept inside grotto in a public place/ Roadside, which

		<p>got damaged. No church/ church premises were vandalized, as reported in the print media. An FIR was registered in Chikkaballapura Rural Police Station under Crime number: 206/2021 u/s 153(A), 295, 120(B), 427 IPC and Section 3 of Prevention of Damages to Public Property Act 1984 dt: 23/12/2021. As soon as the case was reported, efforts were made by special team of officers to trace the miscreants. Also the staff was alerted about the preventive measures. Efforts are still on. The various heads of all the churches were called for a meeting and given instructions to install CC-TV cameras in & around locations where churches/grottos were existing. They were also told to be vigilant about any sort of suspicious movements & to inform the same to the local police. Members of different communities were called for a meeting & briefed about the incident & also ensured that the issue does not escalate. Other instructions to maintain communal harmony were also given. Various locations were designated as beat points and beat police were directed to conduct frequent visits to these locations. Local intelligence through various beat meetings in the nearby villages/localities was strengthened.</p>
5.	<p>C/DL/107/00154/2021: A petition dated 30.10.2021 received from Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Hon'ble MP regarding a report of attacks on Christians in India.</p>	<p>Reports were sought from Chief Secretaries of Uttrakhand, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand.</p> <p>Report was received from Government of Kerala in which it was informed that no incidents as mentioned in the cited letter were reported in Kerala, and strict action will be taken against anyone engaging in crimes that disturb communal harmony in society.</p> <p>Govt. of Uttar Pradesh informed that district authorities of 32 districts were directed to take action and furnish a report to the Commission in such matters.</p> <p>DGP, Govt. of Haryana in his reply informed that the concerned District authorities were directed to take action in such cases. The SP, Karnal informed that a case of assault of Christian by 3-4 unknown people was registered. However, during the investigation no evidence of assault was found.</p>

6.	C/KT/107/00044/2021: The Commission took cognizance of the news item published in "Hindustan Times" dated 13.12.2021 regarding alleged harassment and Christian book ablaze.	Report was sought from the DM and SSP District: Kolar, Karnataka. SSP Kolar informed that 5 individuals were brought to Srinivaspura Police Station and warned to not involve in such activities and later let off. The police Inspector later visited the incident spot and found the distributed books were burnt and a few books were recovered to the police station for record. Following the incidents, Nandish, Ramanji, Subramani visited the police station and submitted a memorandum on illegal religious conversions by Christian Missionaries. However, no complaint was lodged by any members of Christian Community. In this connection, necessary instructions were given to concerned police authorities and adequate security arrangements were made in Srinivaspura for maintaining law and order.
7.	C/MP/115/00077/2021: The Commission took cognizance of the news item published in "Hindustan Times" dated 14.12.2021 regarding rise in attacks on Christians in MP	Report was sought from Chief Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh. Home Department, Govt. of MP informed that a fake news of religious conversion by the St. Joseph Church, Ganjbasauda was spread on YouTube due to which Hindu organizations (Vishwa Hindu Parishad, JagranManch, VHP, Bajrang Dal, ABVP) had gathered in large numbers outside St. Joseph School to submit a memorandum, but some of them became violent and pelted stones at the school, due to which the police provided security to the school administration and children and drove the mob out of the school. A case was registered in Basoda police station against 50-60 unknown miscreants and an investigation was started and the matter is sub-judice. No complaint of conversion was made by any student of the school or their parents.
8	C/UP/112/00166/2021: The Commission took Suo Moto cognizance of news report dated 24.03.2021 published in Times of India regarding attacks on Nuns at Jhansi Railway Station by Bajrang Dal.	A report was sought from Chief Secretary and Director General of Police, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh. A reply was received from Police Authorities stating that as per the information received from RPF Control, the said nuns were stopped for interrogation on the basis of a complaint of conversion of religion fraudulently. However, the complaint was found to be false and the complainant Shri Anchal Singh, Shri Purukesh Amray and Shri Ajay Shankar were arrested and sent to Judicial Custody for misleading complaint.

2022-23

9.	C/UP/104/00651/2022: A petition dated 21.09.2022 was received from Pastor Vijay regarding attack on Hariharganj Church, Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh	A report was called from Superintendent of Police, Fatehpur. Report was received from the SP Fatehpur stating that during the investigation, it was found that in the said Church, the poor and scheduled caste people were forcefully being converted. Accused persons for conversion were arrested and presented before the Chief Judicial Magistrate Fatehpur. The petitioner, Vijay Masih, was one of the accused in this matter.
10.	C/PB/104/00070/2022: The Commission took Suo-Moto cognizance on the newspaper report published in the "Amar Ujala" dated 30.09.2022 regarding vandilzation the Catholic Church in Tarantaran , Jalandhar .	<p>The report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab on 04.10.2022. A report was received in which it was informed that after inquiry by the police, it was found that Catholic Church at village Nandanpur, Police Station Maqsudan District Jalandhar was under renovation. The windows were installed in the church during the renovation work few days ago and the fibre sheets were glued with silicone, one of the windows suddenly fell on the ground due to the lack of grip of the fibre sheet. However, during the verification, no other damage was found in the Church, nor was there any theft or desecration in the Church.</p> <p>The office bearers of the Church were also present there and statement of a Church Member was also recorded. The CCTV footage installed in the area was also checked and no tampering was revealed, neither has anything objectionable come to the light. Thus from the investigation, it was revealed that this was a case of naturally falling of a Church window due to the weak silicon grip of the attached fibre sheet.</p>
11.	C/CG/107/00001/2023: The Commission took Suo-Moto cognizance on the newspaper report published in the "The Indian Express" dated 03.01.2023 regarding vandalization of Church in Narayanpur Chhattisgarh.	The report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Chhattisgarh. A report was received in which it was informed that FIR has been lodged against 18 persons and the matter was sub-judice.
12.	C/DL/101/00113/2023: MoMA vide their letter dated 06.07.2023 forwarded the letter dated 06.03.2023 of Shri Anto Antony, MP regarding attack on Christian Minorities and their institutions.	The matter was taken up with the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh to direct/instruct the concerned authorities to take immediate and decisive action to address the issue of attacks on Christian Minorities and their Institutions across

		<p>the Country.</p> <p>Replies were received from the various District authorities of Uttar Pradesh reporting no incidence of attacks on Christian Minorities and their Institutions. However, in Ghaziabad and Fatehpur Districts, one complaint of conversion from each, against some persons from Christian community was reported. FIR was registered and investigation was under way in the Ghaziabad case and, charge-sheet was filed in the Court in the Fatehpur case.</p>
13.	C/JK/101/00007/2023: A petition dated 21.12.2022 received from the All J&K Christian Sabha regarding problem faced by Christian community in J&K.	A copy of petition was forwarded to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir for taking necessary action.
14.	C/CG/115/00021/2022: The Commission took Suo-Moto cognizance on the newspaper report published in the Times of India dated 22.12.2022 regarding attack on the Christian of 14 villages of District Bastar by unidentified assailants.	Report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Chhattisgarh. The report was received from the Deputy Secretary, Backward Classes and Minority Development Department, Govt. of Chhattisgarh. It was stated that the culprits were booked under section 294,323, 506. The matter is sub-judice. In view of this the matter was closed in NCM.
15.	C/CG/107/00002/2023: The Commission took Suo-Moto cognizance on the newspaper report published in the Dainik Bhaskar dated 05.01.2023 regarding uprooting the graves of converted Christians in Bastar, Chhattisgarh.	Report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Chhattisgarh. The report was received from the Deputy Secretary, Govt. of Chhattisgarh. It was stated that the action was taken against the culprits under the restrictive section 107 & 116 (3). The Police and local administration ensured necessary action by constantly coordinating with the residents of the area, senior citizens, heads of the society and concerned people. The situation was constantly monitored so that there was no tension between any groups. In view of the reply the matter was closed in NCM.
16.	C/KT/104/00001/2022: The Commission took Suo-Moto cognizance on the newspaper report regarding alleged physical assault of Dalit Christian family by members of Hindu outfit in Belagavi District Karnataka.	Report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Karnataka. The report was received from the ADGP (L&O), Bengaluru. It was stated that an inquiry was conducted and it was found that the allegations made by the complainant were not found true and also the above incident did not pertain to any Dalit Christian minority. The matter was closed in NCM as it is sub-judice.

17.	C/KT/116/00002/2023: A petition dated 12.01.2023 received from Shri Arvind Kurian Abraham regarding hate-crime against Christians in Bengaluru.	Report was sought from the Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru. The report was received from Addl. Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru. It was stated that an inquiry was conducted and found that no such incidents happened in the premises, as alleged by the complainant.
18.	C/FC/104/00001/2023: A petition dated 01.02.2023 received from Arvind Kurian Abraham, USA regarding attack on Christians in Vaishali, Bihar.	Report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Bihar. Reminders were also issued to the concerned authority to submit the report.
19.	M/MH/116/00023/2023: A petition dated 06.02.2023 received from Shri. GulzarNabi, Pune regarding hate speech at JantarMantar Delhi to open genocide of Christians and Muslims.	Reports were sought from the Commissioner of Police, New Delhi and Noida. The reports were received from Addl. Commissioner of Police, New Delhi and Noida. It was stated that the original videography of the program was taken into police possession and the same was analyzed to identify accused persons.
20.	C/GJ/107/00007/2023: A petition dated 31.03.2023 received from the Archdiocese of Gandhinagar regarding seeking intervention in protecting the Christians in Gujarat.	A copy of petition was forwarded to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat for necessary action.
2023-24		
21.	C/PB/104/00059/2023. The Commission took Suo-Moto cognizance on the newspaper report published in DanikJagran on 23.05.2023, regarding attack on church by Nihangs at Amritsar Punjab.	A report was called from Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab. The Report was received from State Government in which it was informed that the main accused was identified and arrested. On the basis of statement, cases against 9 others were registered.
22.	C/OR/104/00002/2024: A petition dated 16.03.2024 received from Dr. Purna Chandra Sahu regarding attack on the Church by MrSekar and his group members.	Report was sought from SP, Jajpur , Odisha. Reminders were also issued to the concerned authority to submit the report.
23.	C/PB/101/00058/2023: A petition dated 01.06.2023 received from Shri Griffen regarding atrocious condition of Christians in Amritsar.	A report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Punjab. Reminders were also issued to the concerned authority to submit the report.
24.	C/KL/104/00016/2023: A petition dated 22.06.2023 received from the Centre for Constitutional Right Research Advocacy, Kerala regarding attack on Christian in Gurugram, Haryana.	A report was sought from the Commissioner of Police, Gurugram, Govt. of Haryana. A report was received in which it was stated that three accused persons were arrested and produced before the Hon'ble Court.
25.	C/HR/107/00039/2023: A petition dated 24.06.2023 received from Shri Hareesh KG regarding atrocities against Christians.	Petition was forwarded to the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India for necessary action.
26.	C/AS/104/00003/2024: The Commission took Suo-Moto cognizance of a news item	A report was called for from the Chief Secretary, Assam. A report was received from

	dated 12.02.2024 published in “Deccan Chronicle” newspaper regarding threatening Christian Schools to remove the idols and photographs of Jesus and Mary, as well as Churches located on School Complexes by Hindu outfit in Assam.	the Superintendent of Police, District Guwahati in which it was stated that no adverse impact was observed in any part of the State concerning the removal of idols and photographs of Jesus and Mary from Christian schools, as well as churches located in school premises. In this regard, the District SP was instructed to take preventive and precautionary measures to maintain law and order, ensure peace and harmony, and prevent any untoward incidents related to the issue.
27.	C/KL/104/00002/2024: A petition dated 15.02.2024 received from Dr. Prakash P.Thomas regarding attacks on the Christians in different parts of India.	Petition was forwarded to the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Chief Secretary, Chhattisgarh for necessary action.
28.	C/DL/101/00112/2023: A petition dated 23.04.2023 was received from Federation of Catholic Associations of Archdiocese of Delhi regarding issues faced by the Christian community across the Country:- (i) Christian Community on the pretext of Anti Conversion are being harassed and imprisoned on falsely fabricated charges of conversion. (ii) Many of the Christian Schools and Colleges are under attack and have to face mob attacks, stone pelting and heavy property damage, Principal and teachers are being accused of forced conversion. (iii) Provision for reservation benefit for Dalits who converted to Islam or Christianity.	A report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Gujarat. Reminders were also issued to the concerned authority to submit the report.
2024-25		
29.	NCM/81/03/2025: A petition dated 31.12.2024 received from Shri Justin Jacob, Thrissur, Kerala regarding an incident that occurred on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024 at Palayoor St. Thomas Church, Thrissur. He has stated that the police had prevented the carol singing and also threatened to dispose of Christmas decorations, including tree, lights and crib, despite the event taking place within the church compound.	A Report was sought from the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala on 01.01.2025.
